

The Louisianian.

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New Orleans, April 10, 1875.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

To the readers and patrons of the LOUISIANIAN we cordially wish a merry, merry Christmas! The year now nearly closed has been filled with pleasant memories of an intercourse, mutually agreeable, wherein in the path of duty and of service we have striven to worthily perform the high trusts of teacher and director. That we have been in great part successful the many appreciative tokens in constantly enlarged subscriptions and warmly expressed commendations, substantiate. For these we are thankful. And now at this blessed season when the heart, filled with the hallowing influences of a time, enjoyed in common by millions of our fellow beings, yields to the influences of love and charity, we heartily wish to all to whom these lines shall come "a merry Christmas." That it may bring consolation to the bereaved, lift up the bowed down, and inspire all with gratitude for those blessings Heaven so kindly vouchsafes.

We are quite aware from experience, of the difficulty in restraining the average Arcadian, who is more or less engaged in the topographical service of our weekly contemporaries, from making sad blunders, either with reprint or copy. And yet, when the LOUISIANIAN is reproduced, and especially when one of our religious and specifically literary conferees sees proper to credit us with certain statements we would like that the exact language we employed should be served. We are sufficiently vain enough to think that neither the interpolation of words nor reconstruction of our sentences can improve our meaning or add to its importance when so used. We will therefore thank one and all of our contemporaries, whenever they shall quote the LOUISIANIAN, to do so literally. We very much dislike being garbled.

A sad picture of the wretched condition of affairs in Mississippi is detailed in a recent letter received by Hon. J. Henri Burch in reference to the address on protection, adopted by the late mass meeting of Republicans held in this city, and published in the LOUISIANIAN last week. While thanking Senator Burch for so able and strong a document his Mississippi correspondent writes: "We are all here virtually slaves, bound hand and foot and only live by the grace (if such they have) of our Democratic enemies. So completely are we terrorized that I am under the necessity of asking you not to make this letter public." Sad, Sad indeed! A commentary on American citizenship it humiliates us to chronicle.

COMBINE.

The force which governs all the interests of modern civilization is "combination." Co-operation and combination, whether voluntary or involuntary, give success. This success applies to all the affairs of life—to politics, trade, industry and education. We are led into these reflections, because the Negro in America is to be something or nothing just in proportion, as his power is combined for his own advancement or protection.

The power of numbers in politics is pretty well understood by our people. They know how the single votes when aggregated make majorities. But the power of small means aggregated for a great common industrial or financial good is not so well understood. Nor should the failure of the Freedman's Bank discourage our people from turning their attention to the necessity of thus combining their energies and means for their material advancement.

The need of this policy of combination is rendered imperative from the fact that we are as a race being left more and more to our own resources. Our people need, next to political protection, landed homes. But here we see an illustration of the principle which we urge. Without combination how is a need which applies to a whole race of people to be supplied? Without a combination of means and influences how can the colored people of the single State of Louisiana, or of any one parish in the State, become possessed of landed homes?

The principle of combination in this instance must embrace large capitalized interests, as well as the small means of the people to be benefited. Where are we to look for the capitalized interests that will favor the policy of placing the Southern Freedman on his own land? We reply that this capitalized interest is to be found in the railroad corporations of the South. But it may be asked how are these roads to be interested in this policy? We answer by showing the roads just two things: First, that small farms along the line of these Southern railroads will produce a local business which will enrich the roads. Secondly, that the negro farmer is just as reliable as the white farmer, and that his freight and passenger tickets are just as valuable as those of the white man.

When these two propositions are clearly demonstrated to the hundreds of millions of dead capital now locked up in profitless railroads, this capital will combine with the Negro in order to utilize his labor. This same capital will find its own interest in helping to build up small land owners along the lines of these now profitless Southern railroads.

It may be asked how can we reach these capitalists? That is a question which will be discussed in a future number of the LOUISIANIAN.

"A WHITE MAN'S CONGRESS."

We commend to the colored legislators of Louisiana, and to representative colored Republicans throughout the South, the subjoined suggestive, terse, and able editorial, from the Washington National Republican of recent date. It clearly defines the principle underlying the Louisiana Senatorial contest as understood and appreciated by the colored voters, not only of our State, but of the whole country.

As was well and properly said by Hon. J. Henri Burch in his able speech at the late conference of our leading men, "this matter has passed out of the hands of Mr. Pinchback and even Louisiana; it has become National in its character." In every State of the Union the colored people have in some manner indicated their interest in it and therefore made it a National issue.

The incorruptible integrity of the colored people of Louisiana amid many temptations—as attested by their fidelity to their Senator, has commanded the universal admiration of the American people, and we do not hesitate to declare, done more to establish their claim to citizenship, than any single act they have performed since reconstruction.

A continuance in this manly

course with a steadfast and united purpose, and a firm determination to stamp with ineffaceable infamy any traitor that may be found in our ranks at this crisis of our history, is all that is needed to insure us a glorious victory.

"The rejection of negro representation from the American Congress cannot be compensated for by sending up white Republican Senators and Representatives from the Southern States. To make this compromise would be to give Republicanism to the Confederate Democratic idea that this is a white man's government. What is needed in order to confront Confederate representation in the American Congress is negro representation. When the Republican sentiment of Virginia or Maryland will unite with what is truly enlightened in the Opposition, and give us a colored Senator from either of these white-majority Southern States, then the negro power in South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana will be safe in sending up white Representatives to Washington. But so long as the Confederate Democracy keep up the color line in Southern politics, and so long as they claim that this is a 'white man's government,' the Republican party must defend the right of negro representation in Congress. To reject Mr. Pinchback, therefore, and admit Mr. Anybody Else, whether Confederate or Republican, would be enabling the enemy to make Republican Louisiana add her influence to the policy of a 'white representation' in Congress.

If Republicans will confront this Confederate power now established in Congress, the public sentiment of the nation will sustain us in our cause. If we bow to this Confederate power, public sentiment will turn from us with distrust and disgust. The principle involved in Mr. Pinchback's case cannot be abandoned or compromised."

COLORED NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The National Convention of colored men which is soon to assemble at Nashville Tenn., is not only one of great necessity in view of the critical attitude of our people before the country to-day, but it is as important and as urgently required as any Convention of black men on this continent. We need to take counsel of ourselves, we need to institute practical and effective measures that shall unite and solidify our political power. We are now a power. That power should be felt in the nation. Unlike any other period in the history of our government we are called upon to act. Shall we not make the endeavor? Prior to our political enfranchisement, we could only petition and offer resolutions. To day we must render ourselves available and use the means which Providence gives unto us.

Still we are out in the open field unshielded and without protection. The South land is now crimsoned with the blood of thousands of murdered citizens. The sad wail of despair and torture which comes up from the gulf states, and which still haunts our ears, and the heart-breaking groans of bereaved mothers and orphan children call loudly upon the colored people to assemble. Assemble, Assemble again and tell to the nation and the world the story of their [our] wrongs. If it needs be that we shall drag our mangled and mutilated forms from those fields of desolation, of human butchery and bloody carnage to say to the American Government: "This is the protection you have given us!" let us do it.

The crested storm waves of political treachery are sweeping us down to slavery and to death. * * *

The above from the Planet we heartily endorse, and add a word of advice, viz: that immediate steps be taken by the colored people of the several States in which outrage and wrong have been perpetrated to gather all of the facts attending each case; giving names, date, county and State, in order to enable the Convention to present to the country an authentic statement of facts that cannot be ridiculed as a political "Bloody Shirt" or "Southern Outrage Mill" business. If this course is pursued and the actual condition of the South is made known to the North through a truly representative convention of colored men acting outside of and above political considerations—save only so far as our numbers and influence can be used in that direction for the protection of our lives, our rights, and our property,—the same public sentiment which prevented the National Administration from protecting our people during the late canvass and election in Mississippi will compel it to protect us in the canvass and election of 1876.

THE THIRD TERM VOTE.

The Cincinnati Commercial, in commenting upon the votes of the colored members of Congress on the third term resolution, asserts that the voting against this resolution on their part was an indication of their subservience to the President and an exhibition of a lack of manhood.

We differ with the Commercial as to the construction it places upon these votes. It by no means follows that every man who voted against that resolution is in favor of a third term. There are many reasons outside of favoring the third term that may have actuated the colored members. To question their manhood on this ground is absolute folly. We are painfully aware of the slavish sycophancy that too often characterize colored men when confronted with official pomp and power, and the despicable cringing with hat in hand to the white man disgustingly exhibited sometimes by colored men who should know better. But with all this, we unhesitatingly assert, that, instead of these votes indicating cowardice the reverse is true. When it is remembered what a terrible fright the third term has become, and what a desperate onslaught the press of the country, Republican and Democratic, are making upon it and all who are supposed to favor it, no little courage was exhibited by these men, so matter what motive actuated them.

HON. B. K. BRUCE.

The gentleman whose name heads this article is beginning to experience the penalties of prominence. Soon after his election a rumor was put in circulation and went the rounds of the Press that he would not be admitted to his seat, as evidences of corrupt means having been employed to secure his election would be presented to the Senate, and on this an objection to his being sworn in would be made. As the time approached for the enactment of this drama (March 4, 1875), the colored people all over the country, who had seen with consternation the extraordinary departure by the Republican Senate from time honored precedents in the case of their other Senator Mr. Pinchback, with almost breathless anxiety and with "fear and trembling" waited to learn the result. To their great relief Mr. Bruce was sworn in the same as other newly elected Senators, and at once every body supposed that the malicious slanders would cease their villainous attacks; but not so it seems for again there is going the rounds of the press a paragraph to the effect: that the Senator purchased his election.

There is not a shadow of truth in this assertion. It no doubt has been put in circulation by some unscrupulous scoundrel who hopes to black mail somebody. This sort of thing is quite common among a set of fellows that infest Washington and claim to be newspaper-men.

If we are correct in our assumption all we have to say to these vampires is: "Cease, vipers, you bite a file."

The Memphis Planet pays Senator Bruce the following compliment: "This worthy gentleman has now in all earnestness entered upon his work at the nation's capital. Unpretending and unostentatious, he moves quietly on the honored representative of four millions of colored people. He is a man of few words, but great in execution, as is already known. Mr. Bruce has taken rooms at the residence of Mr. Frederick Douglass. With such a wise and able companion we are assured that the people of Mississippi may rest content, their great Senator will be well cared for."

The colored citizens of Omaha, Nebraska, held on the 5th inst. a memorial service in honor of the lamented late Vice President Wilson at which a series of appropriate resolutions were adopted. Hon. E. R. Overall presided, and E. L. Bell acted as Secretary. Addresses were made by Messrs Dr. Stephenson, Bell, Overall, and the Rev. James Morris.

Superintendent of Police Loan's order to his subordinates for the suppression of the indiscriminate use of fire arms, fire crackers etc., so common heretofore at this season, is excellent. The loss of six or eight human lives last year from this senseless custom, and the danger otherwise to the community should make the police unusually vigilant in its enforcement.

LOUISIANA'S CENTENNIAL TRIBUTE TO THE NEGRO.

BY PAUL TREVISONE.

CAMILLE THIERRY. Long before the publication of "Les Concelles" in 1845—a book of poems written entirely by colored men—Camille Thierry was favorably known as a brilliant and elegant poet among persons of literary taste. His poems are composed with peculiar care, and comprise all the various rhythms of French prosody. Some of them are to be classed among the finest poetical efforts of Louisiana's most gifted writers. "L'Amante du Corsaire," "Marquita la Calentura," "Magloire d'Hoquincourt," "Haribot," "Le Naufrage," "Abdel-Kader," "Diane de Poliers," "La Reine Margot," "Idées," "L'Infante," "La Femme Docteur," "L'Abie," are among the most poetical and moving pieces ever produced in our city. Thierry left New Orleans in 1855 and went to Bordeaux where he resided until 1874. In that year, he paid a short visit to his native city and returned to his adoptive home, where he died soon after his arrival. During his long sojourn in Bordeaux he was associated with the most prominent literary men of that city.

A book containing all his poems, entitled "Les Vagabondes, Poésies Américaines," was published a few months before his death by Delaporte of Bordeaux and E. Lemerre of Paris. At the time of its appearance this book was highly praised by the French press.

The following poem, "L'Amante du Corsaire," will give an idea of the poetical touch of our gifted poet:

L'AMANTE DU CORSAIRE.
Petit oiseau de mer, toi qui reviens sans doute
D'un rivage lointain,
Oh! dis-moi, n'as-tu pas rencontré sur ta route
Le svelte brigantin?
N'as-tu pas, fatigué, sur son grand mat
Qui penche,
Dormi quelques instants?
Joue dans son corsage et dans sa voile
blanche
Ou murmurant les vents?
N'as-tu pas entendu cette voix qui m'est chère,
La voix de mon amant,
Demandant à la brise un parfum de la terre
Pour calmer son tourment?
Si j'avais comme toi, pour tenter le voyage,
Des ailes à mon corps,
Je m'en irais d'un coup de blanc nuage
Qui passe sur ces bords.
Pour lui parler encore, pour lui dire: je t'aime!
J'irais sur l'océan;
Pour baiser ses cheveux, j'irais, oui, fût-ce
même
En un jour d'ouragan!
Car, vois-tu, mon amour est un amour étrange
Qui n'a rien d'ordinaire;
Peut-être me vient-il d'un démon ou d'un ange...
Moi-même ne sais pas!
Mes frères, sans rougir, disent que je suis folle
Et s'éloignent de moi,
Mes sœurs ne veulent plus écouter ma parole...
J'y pense avec effroi!
En vain je leur disais: Je suis votre sœur, grace!
Sur leurs ames de fer
Ma parole passait sans laisser plus de trace
Que les ailes dans l'air!
A qui je confiais le secret de ma flamme,
Dis-moi, petit oiseau!
Ma mère qui m'aimait... dans le ciel a son ame,
Son corps dans le tombeau!
Petit oiseau de mer, toi qui reviens sans doute
D'un rivage lointain,
Oh! dis-moi, n'as-tu pas rencontré sur ta route
Le svelte brigantin?

VICTOR SEJOUR.

A dramatist and poet of great reputation was born in New Orleans in 1817. His father, Louis Sejour, kept a dry goods store at the corner of St. Phillip and Bourbon sts. for a number of years. Victor Sejour was a clerk in his father's store; but having no aptitude for business he naturally paid little attention to his clerical duties. On the other hand, he manifested such a decided taste for reading and study, that his father sent him to Paris—at the age of nineteen years—where, I may say, he educated himself for literature. The first we heard of him after his departure from New Orleans was his composition of an ode on the translation of the body of Napoleon from St. Helena. This ode, from which I will give a few extracts, raised him immediately to distinction. He then wrote "Diegarias," a drama in five parts, which was well received at the "Théâtre Français." "Richard III" written—according to the expression of Paul Féval—with a breath of Shakespeare, was followed by "Le Fils de la Nuit," which, interpreted by that great Star of the French stage, Fletcher, excited the warmest applauses among the Parisians. He then wrote with equal success "Andre Gerard," "Les Grands Vaseaux," "La Tresse de Cartes," "Les Massacres de Syrie," "Les Mystères du Temple," "Les Volontaires de 1814," "Le Fils de Charles Quint," "Le Marquis Caporal," "Les Enfants de la Louve," "Henri de Lorraine" was not so well received, and this affected him so

much that for a long time his pen remained inactive.

After a severe illness he died in Paris the 23rd of September, 1874. He was buried in the Pere La Chaise. At his funeral such men as Emmanuel Gonzalez, Paul Féval, Roger, Larochelle, Paul de St. Victor, were in attendance. His obituary was delivered by Paul Féval, his confrere and friend.

Victor Sejour left two other pieces which have never been played. They are "Cromwell" and "L'Amant du Soleil d'Or."

The following extracts are from his ode on the translation of the body of the great French Emperor from St. Helena:

Comme la vague mer grondant sous le tro-pique,
Le peuple se rua sur la place publique,
En criant le voila!
Un cercueil... O douleur!... un cercueil pour cet homme,
Qui fit de sa patrie une seconde Rome!...
O douleur tout est la.

Quand naguère il rentrait vainqueur dans nos murailles,
Le front ceint des lauriers de deux mille batailles,
Simple dans sa grandeur;
Ce même peuple, hélas! presse sur son passage,
Salue sa venue, exultait son courage,
Et rayonnait de sa splendeur.

Oh! c'est alors, alors que la France était belle...
Elle passait les rois s'inclinaient devant elle,
Comme les épis mûrs sous la souffle du vent.

Elle allait, elle allait semblable à la tempête,
Et le monde ébranlé, devenant sa conquête,
Elle derrière, elle devant.

Plus rien... tout est fini... Salut, o capitaine!
Salut, o mon consul à la mine barbaque.
Tu fus auguste et grand, tu fus superbe et beau!

Tu dépasses du front Annibal et Pompeï;
L'Europe obéissait au poids de ton épée.
Comment peux-tu tenir dans cet étroit tombeau?

Ah! quand, sentil et penail, debout sur Sainte-Hélène,
Ses regards se tournaient vers la France lointaine,
Comme vers une étoile d'or;
Son front s'illumina d'un souvenir de flamme;
Il s'écriait: "mon Dieu, je donnerais mon ame,
Pour la revoir encore."

Nous devrions rougir, nous, peuple qu'on renomme,
D'oser nous approcher des restes du grand homme,
L'humilier sur le front;
D'oser lever les yeux, quand, d'une main panique,
On nous rend, d'une part, sa dépouille héroïque;
De l'autre, on nous jette un affront.

Honte à nous! Il fallait le laisser dans son lit;
Loin de nos habites il reposait tranquille;
On bion, pour le revoir, lui couvrit de lauriers,
Lui vainqueur d'Austerlitz, lui le fils de la gloire.

Il fallait, l'arme au bras, conduits par la victoire,
Le ramener dans nos foyers.
C'est été digne et beau!... le tambour,
A sa suite,
Nos soldats chanda encore d'une grande bataille.

La poudre et le canon,
La France relevée, et l'insigne Angletone,
Expiaient ses forfaits les deux genoux en terre...
C'est ainsi qu'il fallait faire Napoléon.

N'importe, il est ici! Courage, noble France.
On ne peut prolonger la honte, la souffrance.
Car sur le marbre du tombeau,
Ravissant dans nos cœurs notre haine trompeuse,
Nous irons, jeunes, vieux, aiguiser notre

Ebreuse a Waterloo!!!

"The Toledo Blade is the ablest champion that nigger Senator Pinchback has. The little darky dances with delight and will wait on his eyeballs when he reads the eulogistic remarks of his distinguished Western advocate. The Blade is persistent in its advocacy of the colored American Senator's claims."

Pinchback ranks as a "nigger," but his skin is not more than one shade darker than that of the average Northern Democrat, while it is fully up to the standard of a white Democrat of the South. But just what the color of his skin has to do with his right to a seat in the Senate, we do not understand. He has been twice fairly elected, according to Louisiana rules and regulations, has been endorsed by every parish in the State, and there should be no hesitation about giving him his seat.—Blade, 17th inst.

The Republican National Committee will meet in Washington January 13, for the purpose of fixing on the time and place for holding the next Republican National Convention for nomination of a President and Vice President.

Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis (Washington), and one or two other cities are regarded as candidates for the honor.

Twelve of our city's musical amateurs, fair ladies, are to give a Concert for the benefit of the aged, blind, and infirm at Straight University Hall Monday night, the 27th inst. Choice music and an excellent entertainment are promised, and the public, besides the consciousness of a good deed well performed in attendance, will enjoy the value of admission, 50 cents per ticket.

PERSONS AND THINGS.

Senator Pinchback returned from Monday night. He is in excellent spirits, and thinks there is no doubt of his admission soon after the reassembling of Congress.

The grand concert of our friends for the benefit of the New Orleans Relief Committee on last Monday night, the 20th inst., was a highly agreeable affair. Prof. Denis, so well and so ably known for his musical ability, presided at the piano, and several

singers, Miss A. Davis in France (Jerusalem) and Judith; Miss M. L. Lott in "Loin du Pays;" Miss M. Lott in "O, men Fernand" (Le Fier); and little Miss Bosier in the "Greenland Bend," sang enchantingly, eliciting warm applause from an appreciative audience. The gentlemen amateurs, Prof. A. P. Williams in "Over the Hill to the Poor House," and Mr. A. Collins in "Mulligan Guards," and "The Brown Jug" were also warmly commended. Professor Williams in his musical rendition of Will Carleton's pathetic ballad fairly brought tears to the eyes of his hearers, and Mr. Collins in his character songs earned the house in uncontrollable laughter.

The entertainment was a success. On regret is that so small an audience was present. Both the ability of the singers and the exceedingly laudable object of the Association's service should have invoked a large assembly.

The committee of arrangements, Mr. Chas. Vigers as chairman, and Messrs W. G. Brown, Chas. Aubert and the associates, deserve much praise for the excellence of their entertainment. We trust it will be repeated.

The Concert and Exhibition on Friday night of last week, given by the members of the St. Joseph's Association at Mechanic's Institute, under the direction of Mr. J. M. Van and Hon. Robert Ray as managers, and Miss L. D. Watson as musical directress, was a largely attended and highly enjoyable affair. The young gentlemen and ladies, and little masters and misses participated more than filled the measure of expectation of delighted parents and friends, as well as the general public in their performances. It was intended to mention the excellence of individual performers, for all did well, yet the salutary address of young Mr. Dardis, the infant's grace of Miss M. Nickerson, the singing of the Misses Reed, Miss Beaumont and Miss Gates, with the pleasing tableaux, dialogues, recitations, etc., and their participants, example the entertainment. To Miss Watson, as pianist, and her associates, not forgetting Mr. Chas. Morritt as passer, much praise is due. With this success the Association should again this winter renew the public pleasure.

On Thursday evening, January 6th, our Maconic brethren of DeGruy Lodge A. A. Y. M. gave a grand Masonic Regalia, and Fancy Dress Ball at the Maconic Hall, corner St. Peter and St. Cloud streets. The reputation for elegance and rare pleasure which this lodge sustains in entertainments of like character annually given, will not only make its invitations to favored friends highly prized, but add a zest to the festivity and enjoyment of the season none of the irksome will fail to miss. We shall have pleasure in attendance.

A pleasant feature of the appreciated service of the teachers of Jackson Girl's School is the manner in which the pupils therein have showered Christmas tokens on their instructors. Every teacher has been remembered.

Police Commissioner J. B. Gaudet, who has been quite sick with Scarlet fever, we are pleased to learn is now recovering.

Col. James Ingraham, we learn recovering from his late severe prostration. The many friends of the genial Colonel will be especially gratified in this intelligence.

'Tis refreshing to learn through Associated Press dispatches of Thursday that Barret is not after Marshal Pickard. Now let the earth rejoice!

We are pleased to observe the presence of State Senators Gls and Capt. Hon. J. Ross Stewart and other leading Republican Representatives from the parishes, in the city, preparatory to our legislative assemblage next month.

On New Year's night, at Economy Hall, there will be given a grand Children's Ball at which the little folks and friends, ladies and gentlemen, are promised a very pleasant time. Admission, gentlemen 50 cents; Ladies and children 25 cents.

TAKING IT WHOLE.—A Down-Easter, while traveling through the West, happened on one of its representative tavern keepers, of whom he asked what could be furnished for dinner: "Anything from a saute to an elephant," was the reply. "I will take a piece of elephant," said Down-Easter. "You will have to take a whole one," was the rejoinder, "we never cut them."

RELIGIOUS.

CALENDAR.
 Saturday, 25—Christmas.
 Sunday, 26—First Sunday after Christmas—St. Stephen.
 Monday, 27—St. John the Evangelist.
 Tuesday, 28—Holy Innocents.
 Saturday, 1—Circumcision.
 Sunday, 2—Second Sunday after Christmas.
 Thursday, 6—Epiphany.
 Sunday, 9—First Sunday after Epiphany.
 Sunday, 16—Second Sunday after Epiphany.
 Sunday, 23—Third Sunday after Epiphany.
 Tuesday, 25—Conversion of St. Paul.
 Sunday, 30—Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

Salvation, unless it comes through the medium of strictly orthodox channels is not regarded with favor by some religionists. This Stanley, the New York Herald and London Telegraph's African Explorer and correspondent in his account of the African King Mtesa, and his desire for missionaries to teach him and his people the Christian religion, has been read with so much interest in England that a wealthy old gentleman there has responded with an offer of £3000, whereupon the *Pall Mall Gazette* thus coldly and satirically states the case:

"King Mtesa, having been converted from El Islam to Christianity by the sporting correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* and the New York Herald, wants further instruction, and a gentleman rich in gold and benevolence has contributed £3000 by way of answer to the invitation. Missions are good things; missionaries introduce merchants. But in this case there is a slight complication," etc., etc.

The *Jewish Messenger* describes a scene that occurred in a Western synagogue recently on the selection of a Pastor. There were two applicants, and both were granted a hearing before a large congregation. The candidate first present was an elderly "gentleman of the old school, who wore hat and gown and praying scarf, and who, having sung the prayers in the old style, gave a discourse in the English tongue. After him came the second applicant, a gentleman of more modern ideas, who wore neither cap, gown, nor white cravat. He said the prayers in German and Hebrew, without singing, and gave an address in German on the liberal pattern. An election was held afterward, the gentleman of the old school was politely informed that his services were not required, the other was elected. In the language of the ring, the old school candidate was flogged at the first round, all owing to the daring independence of his junior, who discarded cap and gown and preached freedom and enlightenment to his delighted auditors."

An English missionary, named Dr. Stern, went some years ago among the Jews of Yemen, Arabia, and gave out that he was the bearer of happy tidings. He was accepted as a co-religionist, but when he attempted to prove that the expected Messiah was the founder of the Christian Church, the Jews told him to leave the place. He complained to the Sultan, who sent for the presidents of the congregation, and said to them: "Listen, ye Jehuds (Jews,) you are a miserable people. You pray in your synagogues that Allah may send you the Messiah, and now, when the good thing is brought to you that he has come long ago, you ridicule the report, as you have ridiculed and slandered our nabbi (prophet). In punishment for your conduct you shall pay double the head tax this year." This soon became known in all Southern Arabia, and the incident inspired a Jewish teacher to proclaim that God had ordered him to gather together all the Jews and lead them to Jerusalem. Multitudes of Jews accepted him as the promised Messiah and flocked to his standard from all parts of Arabia. While the Messiah was engaged in organizing an army the province of Yemen was conquered by Turkey, and he prudently resigned his Messiahship until another call came from heaven. He now appears again, and his followers expect him to assume the crown of David.

The programme for the celebration of the Centenary of American Independence by the Methodist Episcopal churches has been published. The thanksgiving service will begin on the first Sunday in June, and close on the Fourth of July. Each church will select a Sunday during the interval named. The exercises will be a memorial sermon and a children's meeting. The people are invited to devote their gifts to the cause of education.

It is stated that Mr. L. P. Gardner, a recent appointee on the Board of City School Directors, proposes to begin the work of Mission Sunday Schools among the poorer classes of colored children here, under the direction of Dr. Palmer's Presbyterian Church. If this be true, the world may be said to have progressed materially.

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